

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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MAY WE *Quote* YOU ON THAT?

The 6th conference of Big Four Foreign Ministers began this wk in London, in an atmosphere hardly calculated to foster optimism. The deputies have been wrangling for 2 wks without even progressing to a point where they could agree on an agenda. There's nothing to indicate U S and Britain have altered opposition to 2 "left-over" issues: Russia's demand for \$10 billion German reparations, and her desire for voice in management of German Ruhr. Some public prints may try to present picture indicating progress, but it's difficult now to see how there can be meeting of minds. If anything is accomplished it will be thru long, hard session. Safe conclusion: if delegates get home for Christmas, conference will be a failure . . . It's interesting to note that TAFT is becoming increasingly the Voice of Republican party. His position in Senate makes him logical spokesman. But it's doubtful that this articulation is helping his candidacy. It's political axiom the more a man talks the less "available" he becomes as party standard-bearer. We are less inclined than yr ago to brush off military man as Republican Presidential candidate, but still see no conclusive sign that Dewey has been or will be stopped . . . Watch Democrats become increasingly "liberal." Strategists see it as safest course to assure '48 victory.

Sir JOHN BOYD ORR, Director Gen'l, UN Food and Agricultural Organization: "The number of people in Europe and Asia who will die from the direct or indirect effects of food shortage in the next 12 mo's will be greater than the number who were killed in the fighting or in the bombing in any year of the war." 1-Q

Gen'l DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, in letter to Calif "MacArthur-for-Pres Club": "The need is not in the concentration of greater power in the controls of state, but in the reservation of much more power in the people as intended by the constitutional mandates — for more leadership and less direction." 2-Q

OSWALDO ARANHA, Brazil, pres of UN Security Council: "Like an illness which by contrast accentuates the blessing of health, so war brings a single benefit in that we learn to hate it and to love peace all the more." 3-Q

GEO MARSHALL, Sec'y of State: "The patient is sinking while the doctors deliberate, so I believe that action cannot await compromise thru exhaustion. Whatever action is possible . . . must be taken without delay." 4-Q

Gen'l DWIGHT EISENHOWER, ordering army to take "secret" label off historical records: "The historical record of the army's operations as well as the manner in which these were accomplished are public property and except where the security of the nation

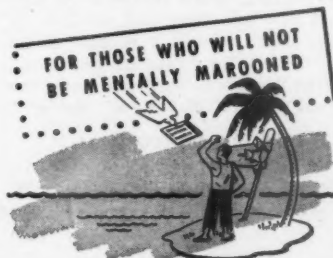
may be jeopardized, the right of citizens to the full story is unquestioned." 5-Q

RAYMOND BOUSSUS, Communist spokesman, Paris Council: "American automobiles, American furniture, American literature and American clothes are corrupting the French people." 6-Q

Dr ALBERT EINSTEIN, noted physicist: "Science has a sharp eye for ways and means, but too frequently it is blind to ends and values." 7-Q

WM BENTON, U S delegate to UNESCO conference: "One of the great causes of war is the malnutrition of the mind." 8-Q

Rep KARL MUNDT, S Dakota: "Certainly asking Americans to provide more food to stop Communism abroad, permitting food to be wasted thru a shortage of boxcars, and shipping these boxcars to Russia so she can build Communism more aggressively is a whirling dervish program which would make a self-respecting corkscrew turn green with envy." 9-Q





ANGER—1

Anger is the wind that blows out the lamp of the mind.—*Sunshine Magazine*.

APATHY—2

Along the farthest edge of the long, green panels of lawn which extended from the ante-bellum manor houses of Tidewater Virginia estates, a "ha-ha" was often in evidence. It was a sort of trench, the inner side of which was perpendicular and faced with a wall; the outer side being sloped and turfed, permitting the cattle to appear on the landscape, yet keeping them at a safe distance from the mansion.

The American reader so often dwells behind a kind of "ha-ha." Problems of moment and controversial issues are paraded before us in print. We read, are interested, often aroused, but we permit them to pass by without much more than cursory comment. — A A MEDVED, "Look at the Record," *Crisis*, 11-47.

APPRECIATION—3

A man whose ragged clothing belied the dignity of the human being who wore them asked for a suit at one of the Quaker centers in Europe. When he rec'd the suit, not new but clean and mended, he was asked to sign a receipt: Rec'd —one suit. He signed his name, and after the word "suit" he wrote the word "beautiful."—*AFSC Bulletin*.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS—4

Mistletoe, according to Scandinavian mythology, means "give me a kiss." And we are wont to kiss

beneath this bough at Christmas time because of an old Scandinavian tale.

Balder, the Scandinavian Apollo, was given a charm by his mother, Frigga, to protect him against all injuries—from fire, water, air, and earth. Loki, the bad one, who disliked Balder, made an arrow out of mistletoe which being a parasite did not spring from any of the above elements. He gave the arrow to a blind man, Helder, and told him to shoot it at the God Balder. Balder was severely wounded by the mistletoe weapon, and was only brought back to good health thru the efforts of all the Gods, and on that day, his mother, Frigga, decreed that the mistletoe plant should never again be used as a lethal weapon. She was so grateful for her son's recovery she promised to kiss anyone who passed beneath this branch. And so it is, a man may demand a kiss of a maiden as she stands beneath the mistletoe at Christmas but he must give her one of the berries. When all the berries are gone, the mistletoe loses its spell and kissing is over for Christmas except on a mutual basis.—*1001 Christmas Facts & Fancies*.

COOPERATION—Lack—5

Yrs ago it was decided to raise a fund to purchase and install a clock for St Peter's at Wisbeech, Cambridgeshire. From north, south and east the response was all that could be desired; from the west, however, came a not-too-polite refusal to participate. A meeting was held, and it was decided that such an attitude called for only 1 answer. The north, south and east sides should have a clock-face; the remaining side would remain blank, and if the people of Walsoken and points west wished to know the time—well, they could ask a policeman!—W E TILLEY, *Country Life*.

DICTION—6

Poor diction sounds the way a slip cover looks when hanging on the line. — MARCELENE COX, *Ladies' Home Jnl*.

ECONOMY—Dangers of—7

If we count our pennies now we may have to count our war dead later. — WALTER WINCHELL, *syndicated col*.

EDUCATION—8

Educational programs to combat racial and religious prejudices are

scheduled in Philadelphia and N Y schools. Philadelphia's experimental programs will go into effect in 5 public schools next yr. Teachers in these selected schools have been trained for 2 yrs in human relations education by the Bureau of Intercultural Education and will utilize their newly learned skills in an effort to eliminate prejudices shown in studies of kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade pupils. To evaluate the program, tests have been devised showing the true feelings of the children. These tests will be given the pupils periodically thru-out the experiment. If the program is successful it will be made available to any school or school system desiring it.—*Kwanis Magazine*.

EGOTISM—vs Arrogance—9

Egotism is a good word that has fallen a victim of bad usage. True egotism is a virtue. It ceases to be a virtue and becomes a vice only when it shades over into arrogance. A sense of one's own value and ability and personal rights lies at the base of all morality and achievements. Belief in a certain superior quality in one's personality is essential both to his personal success and to his social usefulness.

The trouble comes when you allow yourself to assume that because you are superior, therefore everyone else is inferior. This is arrogance, and arrogance is the destroyer of individuals and of races. — KELLY O'NEALL, *Denver Post*.

Revised Version

A sad-faced, sickly-looking child, just one among many of the mill town's poor, asked by a solicitous Sunday School teacher to please repeat the Lord's Prayer, turned her eyes wishfully upon the teacher and said quaintly, stumbling over one passage: "And forgive us our Christmases as we forgive all those who Christmas against us."—PHILIP J CLEVELAND, *Pulpit Digest*. 10

FUTURE—11

The unique marks of the coming period, which we think we can discern in these times of stress, may be comprised in 3 words: mass, technique, propaganda — mass instead of personality, technique instead of art, propaganda instead of statesmanship. Personality, art, and

statesmanship were vital forms of the bourgeois world. Of the coming world one can say with certainty only that it is still farther from paradise than its predecessor. — WILHELM STAPEL, *New English Review*.

GOODWILL—12

Turning the other cheek is a kind of moral jiu-jitsu.—GERALD STANLEY LEE, *Woman's Home Companion*.

HABIT—13

Nothing makes the average person madder than to suggest there is a better way of doing things—than the traditional method. — *American Lumberman & Bldg Product Merchandiser*.

HOUSING—14

The building industry is doing business at the old stand-still. — QUIN RYAN, '47 *Line Book*.

INTERNAT'L RELATIONS—15

We like the cartoon entitled "In Lake 'Success?'" showing Marshall and Vishinsky in a rowboat called "UNO." Trouble is, each man has a pair of oars, and they are pulling away from each other.—*Vrij Nederland*. (Amsterdam)

LANGUAGE—Power of—16

During the war, a drug co requested addit'l gasoline coupons for its salesmen, who called on physicians. But the request was denied. The sales mgr tried again, this time using some word magic on the application blank. Instead of requesting more gasoline for "salesmen" he used "medical service representatives," and the additional coupons were granted pronto!—Dr JAMES F BENDER, *Norfolk and Western Mag.*

LONELINESS—17

We moved to a new town, and it was a new experience for our son Mark, aged 2½, not to have everyone speak to him as he walked down the st.

One day he stood it as long as he could. He stopped in front of one

of the store windows, looked at his reflection for several sec's, and then shouted, "Hiya, Mark!"—Mrs ANNE DICKINSON, *Magazine Digest*.

LUXURIES—18

We're all burdened with luxuries which have become necessities. — WM FEATHER, *Enos Magazine* hm, Enos Coal Mining Co.

Walk Tall

Walk tall. Regardless of your height . . . walk tall! By reaching for that extra inch or two You might just lift your eyes above the wall Which seems to block tomorrow from your view.

Think tall. Try stretching out your thoughts a bit You walk with freer stride. Quite soon you'll find Your shoulders squared unconsciously to fit That larger suit you've tailored for your mind.

Feel tall. Think tall. Walk tall . . . as soldiers do. You'll be amazed. It really makes you taller. Inside and out, you'll be a bigger you. And anyhow, it can not make you smaller. — DON BLANDING, *Science of Mind*. 19

OBJECTIVE—20

It had been a hot little scuffle, and finally one boy got the other down on the ground and started pummeling him. Just then The Man Who Stops Fights came by.

"Young man," he said, "you shouldn't hit that boy when he's down."

"G'wan," was the scornful answer. "What d'ya think I got him down for?" — JOHN E DONOVAN, *Woman*.

ORIGIN—"You're a Brick"—21

We often hear the expression, "You're a brick!" Its origin is

found in the story of the visitor to Sparta who remarked, in surprise, about the absence of a wall around the city. The next day, the King of Sparta showed his visitor his army of 10,000 men, remarking, "There stands the wall of Sparta, and every one of them a brick."—JOSEPH F NEWTON, *Sterling Sparks*, hm, Sterling Grinding Wheel Division.

POLITICS—22

What has imperiled America most has been that brigade of whitewashers always instantly available with brush and bucket to apply a coat of snowy whiteness to the dark and sinister conduct of men entrusted with the destinies of America. Politics needs less whitewash and more fumigation.—JACOB S PAYTON, "The Order of Whitewashers," *Christian Advocate*, 11-20-'47.

RELIGION—23

To know, to love, and to serve Jesus Christ—if these tasks are to seem ever more quaint and superannuated to a growing number of persons, we shall become the dupes of every political circumstance and the foundations of any lasting democracy will also be removed.—GORDON KEITH CHALMERS, "The Prerequisite of Christian Education," *American Scholar*, Autumn, '47.

RUSSIA—Peacetime Budget—24

The Soviet state budget reflects the peaceful policy of the USSR. This is evident from the reduced appropriations for the Ministry of the Armed Forces and the steady increase in the appropriations for culture and economic undertakings in the postwar budgets. In the '47 budget of the USSR, for example, appropriations for the nat'l economy and culture comprise 64.3% of the total, and the expenditures allocated for the maintenance of the armed forces only 18%. The appropriations for the armed forces in '40 amounted to 32.6% of the total. — Prof K PLOTNIKOV, "Planning the Soviet Budget," *USSR Bulletin*, 11-5-'47.



Droke House

LUCY HITTLE, Editor

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AUTOMOBILES: Car can be driven sidewise into small parking place by retractable mechanism which rests on its own parking wheel after it lifts car off the ground. (*Capper's Wkly*)

BANKING: Post - A - Checks, printed on penny post cards, have been introduced by Nat'l Bank of Commerce, Lincoln, Neb. (*News-week*)

COMMUNICATIONS: Signal corps has devised a 1-man public address system — voice amplifier worn slung around neck. Powered by storage battery, amplifier weighs less than 3 lbs. (*Record Stockman*)

INDUSTRIAL AIDS: Climbing truck enables one person to move heavy loads up to 1,000 lbs up or down stairs and ramps easily: Caterpillar type frame spans 3 steps; safety beltbrake locks threads to permit resting between floors. (*Canadian Business*)

PHOTOGRAPHY: "Eye-Saver" is good news to models and others who sit under blazing photographer's lights. Described as dim-bright-dim switch synchronizer, it allows model to sit in normal light while photographer decides on pose, balances light, and focuses camera. As photographer squeezes bulb, lights are raised to full intensity, timed with shutter action, then dimmed again. Florida maker says it makes flood bulbs last longer. (*Financial Post*)

SAFETY—Ballistics: Bullet trap, safety device for gun practice, is box-like device of metal with removable cardboard or plywood target on its front. Steel sides slope inward toward rear where there are 2 10-gauge steel sheets. Construction is so designed that bullets are pulverized. (*Science News Letter*)

SELF-CONFIDENCE—25

Reach toward your greater self. Believe in that greater self. Reach toward it with confidence and unlimited faith. It will not fail you.—*ELSIE ROBINSON, Arkansas Gazette.*

SOCIALISM—vs Communism—26

Real socialism preaches the doctrine of state ownership of all industry just as does communism. Their aims are identical. The only difference is that the Communists want direct action whereas the Socialists are willing to wait for an evolutionary process. Socialists want to cut off the tail of the dog an inch at a time while the Commies don't mind cutting him in 2.

But both stand for the same thing in the ultimate analysis.

That is what Karl Marx meant when he called his movement "scientific socialism." There are thousands of movements called "socialist" but if they are non-Marxian—as is the British—they are strictly near beer; just a lot of suds. They never last because they can never agree. They become debating societies, as it was in Germany until the leader of the Nat'l Socialist Party, a fellow named Hitler, came along and "solidified" them. —*Omaha World Herald.*

SUCCESS—27

Executives in industry did not reach the pinnacle until 10 to 20 yrs after they were graduated from college, according to a recent survey showing that 43% of the executives fall into this group. For 31% it took 20 to 30 yrs to make the grade.—*Everybody's Wkly.*

VISION—28

The story is told of a loaf of bread that fell from a baker's basket. When it hit the pavement a crumb broke off and lay beside it. Almost instantly 3 sparrows made a swoop for the crumb, and when the contest was over, 2 of the birds flew away without a bite while the other carried off a meager breakfast.

The loaf was untouched in the frenzy. Only the crumb had seemed a worthwhile prize to the birds.

Just a little wider range of vision, and a little less greed, and each bird could have been more than satisfied.

The moral is plain. Men, like birds, quarrel over trivialities, and in the heat of doing so let life's

bigger, more lucrative prizes escape them, unnoticed.—*Mutual Moments*, hm, Mutual Benefit, Health & Accident Ass'n.

WOMEN—Work—29

Now that housewives are organizing to demand recognition of the arduous labors of their 7-day wk, it is interesting to recall a statistical table of her contribution to the world's work, compiled a few yrs ago by an American woman.

In the course of 30 yrs of married life, she computed she had baked 33,000 loaves, 6,000 cakes, and 7,960 pies, had served 235,425 meals, churned 5,540 pounds of butter, canned 4,550 qts of fruit, raised 7,680 chickens, and put in 36,461 hrs of sweeping, washing, dusting, etc, incidentally bearing and rearing half a doz children.—*Scotsman.*

A Creed

Brother is stranger to his brother
Unless he drop the mask
Closing inward strength concealed

To meet a common task.

Prodding the boundaries of self

None shall walk alone

Who listens for his brother's voice

In answer to his own.—*PATRICIA BENTON MEDNIKOFF, Opportunity, Jnl of Negro Life. 30*

WORRY—31

Worry is a thin stream of fear trickling thru the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained. — *ARTHUR SOMERS ROCHE.*

YOUTH—32

A youth expects to be recognized as a person. From his viewpoint he is growing, achieving, experiencing, pressing on, becoming an adult. From the viewpoint of teacher and parent he is doing these things, but he needs guidance, assistance, direction so that the product will be satisfactory to the parent and teacher. Youth pushes ahead; those of us directing youth pull, and restrain, and hold, and turn him. Both the youth and the guide are right, altho the youth must be considered increasingly, for the object of our experience with him is to make ourselves unnecessary and to make him self-sufficient.—*PAUL D SAFER, Vital Speeches.*

Christianity and "Religion"



You will recall C S (Clive Staples) LEWIS as author of the amusing Screwtape Letters, and more recently, *Beyond Personality and Christian Behaviour*. A native of Ireland, he has for some 20 yrs been a Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, where he lectures on English Literature. His most recent book, *Miracles* (Macmillan, \$2.50), which we here excerpt, is termed "A Preliminary Study." That is to say, it is a study preliminary to any historical inquiry into the actual occurrence of miracles. The main purpose is to give battle to the common assumption against the miraculous, deliberately shifting the question of probability from the unconscious to the conscious plane.

The Christians say that God has done miracles. The modern world, even when it believes in God, does not. It thinks God would not do that sort of thing. Have we any reason for supposing that the modern world is right? I agree that the sort of God conceived by the popular "religion" of our own times would almost certainly work no miracles. The question is whether that popular religion is at all likely to be true.

I call it "religion" advisedly. We who defend Christianity find ourselves constantly opposed not by the irreligion of our hearers but by their real religion. Speak about beauty, truth and goodness, or about a God who is simply the indwelling principle of these three, speak about a great spiritual force pervading all things, a common mind of which we are all parts, and you will command friendly interest. But the temperature drops as soon as you mention a God who has purposes and performs particular actions, who does one thing and not another, a concrete, choosing, commanding, prohibiting God with a determinate character. People become embarrassed or angry. Such a conception seems to them primitive and crude and even irreverent. The popular "religion" excludes miracles because it excludes the "living God" of Christianity and believes in a kind of God who would not do miracles or indeed anything else . . .

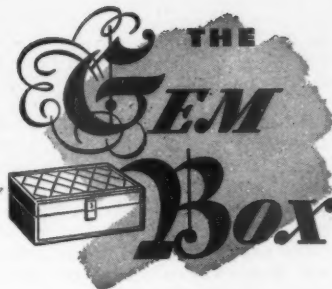
Men are reluctant to pass over from the notion of an abstract and negative deity to the living God. I do not wonder. Here lies the deepest tap-root of Pantheism and of the objection to traditional imagery. It was hated not, at bottom, because it pictured Him as king, or even as warrior. The Pantheist's God does nothing, demands nothing. He is there if you wish for

Him, like a book on a shelf. He will not pursue you. There is no danger that at any time Heaven and earth should flee away at His glance. If He were the truth, then we could really say that all the Christian images of kingship were a historical accident of which our religion ought to be cleansed. It is with a shock that we discover them to be indispensable. You have had a shock like that before in connection with smaller matters — when the line pulls at your hand, when somebody breathes beside you in the darkness.

So here; the shock comes at the precise moment when the thrill of life is communicated to us along the clue we have been following. It is always shocking to meet life where we thought we were alone. "Look out!" we cry, "it's alive!" And therefore this is the very point at which so many draw back — I would have done so myself if I could — and proceed no further with Christianity. An "impersonal God"—well and good. A subjective God of beauty, truth and goodness, inside our own heads—better still. A formless life-force surging thru us, a vast power which we can tap — best of all. But God Himself, alive, pulling at the other end of the cord—that is another matter.

There comes a moment when the children who have been playing at burglars hush suddenly: was that a real footstep in the hall? There comes a moment when people who have been dabbling in religion ("Man's search for God") suddenly draw back. Suppose we really found Him? We never meant it to come to that! Worse, still, supposing He had found us?

So it is a sort of Rubicon. One goes across; or not. But if one does, there is no manner of security against miracles. One may be in for anything.



Christmas Encyclical

JOS AUSLANDER

When nations at their Christmas Feast

*The Prince of Good Will consecrate,
Whilst the Apocalyptic Beast
Rages in horror and in hate,
How shall they reconcile these two,
If two such can be reconciled:
How seat the Gentile with the Jew?
How feed the Chinese — and the
Child?*

*Oh how, upon the holy plate,
Between the candles of the Lord,
Shall we commingle Love and
Hate?*

*How carve His banquet with the
sword?*

*Or by what self-deception mix
Water with blood to mimic wine?
What lies can cleanse the crucifix
To stop its dripping on the Shrine?*

*Let no tongue of the Jesu prattle
Or sprinkle sugary condiments;
Not when our very windows rattle
With bombs that slaughter Innocents.*

*Not in such fashion dare we bur-
nish*

*A single straw to ease Her head,
Who by Her love alone did furnish
The stable God inhabited.*

*There is no middle course to follow,
No clever furtive compromise;
The Christmas Carol rings too hol-
low*

*In dead men's ears, at dead men's
eyes:*

*Either we stand with Christ in hell,
And His faith brevets our behavior;
Or muffle the drum and drape the
bell,*

*And perish, Christian, with your
Savior! — Riders at the Gate.
(Macmillan)*

GOOD STORIES

You Can Use

Frankie wanted a watch for Christmas and he teased so hard for it that his father finally ordered him not to mention that word again. He obeyed the injunction with difficulty.

The next morning at family prayers there was a round of Bible verse and when Frankie's turn came he piped up. "What I say unto you I say unto all. Watch." — *Jnl of Education.* a

After a meeting where the maitre d'hotel had explained the 3 magic "S's" for waiters, a new employee said to Zack, an old timer, "I don't understand all the boss said about those 3 tools for waiters—Service, Satisfaction, and Psychology. What is that 3rd thing? How do I know if I'm using it?"

"It's like this," explained Zack. "When a guest leaves a dime, that's for service. If a quarter is beside the saucer, that's for satisfaction. But when he leaves folding money, that's when you used psychology." — *HENRI CANUTE CALLBACH, '47 Line Book.* b

For several yrs the Windmill Theater in London has presented musical shows called Revudevilles which have become famous for the near nudity of their beautiful girls. Today these shows are so torrid that the mgt has installed in the lobby a sign reading: "Any addit'l artificial aid to vision is not PERMITTED." — *PRELING FOSTER, Collier's.* c

Clare Boothe Luce and her husband were house guests of David Selznick. Having dressed to go out 1 night Mrs Luce strolled into the dressing room of her hostess to talk with her. Mrs Selznick rolled back a sliding door and disclosed a closet with 9 fur coats, from which she chose a mink for the evening.

Next morning Selznick went to his studio, Luce went to the TIME and LIFE offices in Hollywood and Mrs Selznick went shopping. About 11 o'clock a private alarm system sent 4 police racing to the Selznick house. They searched the house and finally came to the dressing

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

ALBERTA WILLIAMS

The St Louis health commissioner tells his favorite story of public respect for restaurant grading. Soon after grades were posted, he stopped before a B restaurant just as 2 bleary-eyed bums shuffled up to enter the place for a handout. Suddenly one of them pulled back in shocked horror. "Bill," he said to his companion, "this place has only a B rating!" — *Survey Graphic.*

room where they found Mrs Luce seated happily contemplating 9 kinds of fur coats with frank feminine enthusiasm and curiosity. With some difficulty she convinced them her object was admiration—not burglary. — *IRVING HOFFMAN, Hollywood Reporter.* d

The defendant acknowledged that he hadn't spoken to his wife in 5 yrs, and the judge put in a question.

"What explanation have you," he asked severely.

"Your honor," repl'd the husband, "I didn't like to interrupt her." — *Wisconsin Telephone News.* e

From a Bradford friend now visiting Canada comes the story of a school-teacher who, arriving late 1 morning, found her classroom deserted. Scrawled across the blackboard in a childish hand was this telling reproof: "We was here, you was not. Now you'd here, we is not." — *Yorkshire Post.* f

A gangster whose brother had died suddenly as a result of lead poisoning, took it upon himself to raise his two orphaned nephews, aged 5 and 7. . . . While ret'g from one of his midnight Christmas shopping forays, his arms loaded with skates, boxing gloves and toys, he bumped into a buddy.

"Well, Spike," said the friend, "I see you're not forgetting Tommy

and Mike on Christmas morning."

"You got me wrong," repl'd the uncle. "This stuff is all for Tommy. Mike's 7 now—old enough to go out and swipe his own toys." — *Sporting Goods Dealer.* g

A Scotch minister was asked to pray for rain, and his prayer was followed by such a downpour that crops were injured. One old farmer said to another: "this comes of trustin' such a request to a minister who ain't acquainted with agriculture." — *Parts Pup, hm, Gen'l Parts Co.* h

"We, here in Boston," said the haughty hostess to her visitor from Chicago, "think that breeding is everything."

"Well," repl'd the lady from Chicago, "we like it, too, but we have other interests as well." — *Arrow, hm, Arrow Mfg Co.* i

A hillbilly who was appearing in a law suit was being questioned by the plaintiff's lawyer.

"Can you write?" asked the lawyer.

"Nope."

"Can you read?"

"Waal, I kin read figgers pretty good, but I don't do so good with writin'."

"How's that?"

"Waal, take these here signs along the road when I goes places; I kin read how fur but not whurto." — *Rittertalk.* j

An engaged couple of different religious faiths decided to visit each other's churches. The boy visited the Catholic church and the girl faithfully explained the ritual and symbols to him. When the girl visited the Protestant church the boy explained things to her. Suddenly she saw the minister put his watch on the pulpit so she nudged the lad and asked the meaning of that. "Honey," he repl'd, "that doesn't mean a darn thing!" k

One turkey talking to another turkey: "Gosh, if grandpa knew

WISCRACKS

OF THE WEEK



how much we were costing a lb this holiday season, he'd turn over in his grave!" — HY GARDNER, *Parade*.

Progress?

An oyster house in Hartford, Conn., recently marked its 100th anniv. It published a menu comparing conditions then and now. Said the menu:

"We opened in 1847, when women wore hoop skirts, frilled cotton drawers, did cleaning, washing and ironing, raised big families, went to church Sundays and were too busy to be sick.

Men wore whiskers, chopped wood, bathed once a wk, drank 10¢ whiskey and 5¢ beer, worked 12 hrs a day and lived to a ripe old age.

Stores burned coal oil lamps, carried everything from a needle to a plow, trusted everybody, never took inventory, placed orders for goods once a yr in advance, and always made money."

This, of course, was the era which orators have in mind when they talk about progress. We have progressed since then. What have we progressed to? The centenary menu makes it perfectly plain:

"Now women wear an oz of underwear, smoke, paint, powder, drink cocktails, have pet dogs and go in for politics.

"Men have high blood pressure, little hair, bathe twice a day, are misunderstood at home, play the stock mkt, drink poison, work 5 hrs a day and die young.

"Stores have electric lights, cash registers, elevators, never have what the customer wants, trust nobody, take inventory daily, never buy in advance, have overhead, mark-down, stock control, Dollar Day, Founder's Day, Economy Day — and never make any money." — *Judy's*.

A lady invited several friends to a mushroom steak dinner. When Nora, her maid, opened the can of mushrooms, preparatory to making the sauce, there was a slight scum

on top. The time being short, the lady suggested, "Give the dog a little and if he eats it, it's probably all right." Since the dog liked it and begged for more, the dinner was finished.

After the guests had enjoyed their dinner, Nora came in, white-faced, with the dessert and whispered tragically to her employer, "Ma'am, the dog's dead."

There was only one thing to do and the lady did it.

Some time later when 8 people were lying around in various stages of recovery and the doctor had departed with his stomach pump, the lady wearily asked, "Nora, where's the poor dog?"

"Out on the front steps, Ma'am, where he fell after the car hit him." — *Journeyman Barber*.

The florist's new assistant picked up the phone and listened attentively as he heard the order. "The ribbon must be extra wide," the man was saying, "with the 'Rest in Peace' on both sides, and if there is room, 'We Shall Meet in Heaven'."

There was a sensation when the flowers arrived at the funeral. True, the ribbon was extra wide, but the inscription it bore read: "Rest in peace on both sides, and if there is room, we shall meet in heaven." — *Reading Ry Magazine*.

"My wife explored my pockets last night."

"What did she get?"

"About the same as the other explorers, enough mat'l for a good lecture." — *Army & Navy Jnl*.

The squire's son, who had been away for several wks, was met at the station by the groom, who looked very miserable.

"Bad news, Joe?" he asked.

"Yes, sir; the magpie's dead."

"What did it die of?"

"Too much horseflesh, sir."

"Where did it get the horseflesh?"

"The carriage horses, sir. They died the night of the fire."

"Gracious! Has there been a fire at the house? When did it happen?"

In giving the Devil his dues few people are taxed without representation. — *Trumbull Cheer*, hm, Trumbull Electric Mfg Co.

ATOMIC AGE: When 2 can live as deep as one. — *Phoenix Flame*.

The man who found a valuable pearl in his oyster stew in a night club the other evening almost broke even. — *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

CATERPILLAR: An upholstered worm. — *Louisville Courier-Jnl Magazine*.

Face powder can catch a man, but it needs baking powder to keep him. — *Edinburgh Evening News*.

The average wolf is quite slap-happy by the time he becomes 35. — *HENRY VANCE*, *Birmingham News-Age-Herald*.

Most girls have a skin they love to retouch. — *Thomaston Times*.

"The night of the funeral, sir."

"Funeral? Whose funeral?"

"Your mother's, sir. She died from shock when your father died."

"What! My father, too?"

"Yes, sir. The shock of losing all his money killed him."

"Good Heavens!"

"Yes, sir; and the magpie's dead." — *Tit-Bits*. (London)

The story is being told of 2 German war veterans discussing Soviet-American relations. One of them said: "In a war between Russia and America, I'd fight on the Russian side." His companion said: "That's a foolish statement." The 1st one said: "No, it isn't. You see, I was an American prisoner of war once before." — *LEONARD LYONS*, syndicated col.



Life in 1960

The yr 1960 will be a good one IF we avoid a big war, and IF we avoid a big depression between now and then. Or, to put it in a blunter way: 1960 will be either a very good yr or a very bad one. If it turns out to be a very bad one—as a result of war and depression — this picture will be nothing more than a missed opportunity and many of us won't be around to compare notes.

The prosperity of 1960 will be like the prosperity of 1925-29 rather than a prosperity based on super-planning. It will not be a "full-employment" utopia. There will be 3,200,000 out of work—shifting between jobs, on strike, laid off or bone lazy. But there will be 60,-200,000 at work.

Employment will be more stable. Even the recessions of the 1940's won't halt the trend toward greater stability. People will save a smaller part of their incomes because people will be more secure. These factors will bring about the best mkt in American history.

There will be many improvements and changes in the power system: more turbines, more hydro-electric plants, improved fuels. A small factory will actually be powered, if not by atomic energy, with a "helio-engine," directly utilizing sun-light to run the mach'y.

Most Americans will make their living in 1960 by producing the kind of goods and service already familiar to us in 1947.

From a reading of the morning paper in 1960, it does not seem like a Golden Age. Developments in Europe are still disquieting. There is domestic news of strikes, lock-outs, chiseling, monopolies, rackets in business and in labor, of poverty, sickness and crime. Editorial writers are perturbed over

an estimate that the public spends more for chewing gum than for books. Furthermore, some of the 1960 gum not only pops but whistles.

Helicopters and the commercial distribution of atomic energy, just underway in 1960, are speeding up the mixing of town and countryside already started.

The 1960 nat'l bill for food, liquor and tobacco totals about \$48½ billion, of which some \$8 billion goes for liquor and \$4 billion for tobacco. At a fairly moderate increase in cost—only about \$4½ billion more — the needs of all Americans for an adequate "minimum" diet could be met in full. Thruout the 1950's we kept on eating 15% more, on the average, than before World War II, and American agriculture cont'd to amaze the world. Farm exports in 1960 are 15% of total farm production. Agriculture, like big industry, is now planning its production. Long used to the nat'l crop goals drawn up with the assistance of the Dep't of Agriculture, farmers are now getting used to the annual world crop goals announced by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN.

Amid the gen'l abundance of 1960 there are still thousands of Americans who know what it is to be ragged, cold. Sometimes it is their own fault, sometimes it is not; human nature and the economic mach'y still have kinks.

The 1960 "opera" convertible has a "roller-top" of new, light-weight metal, strong enough to provide real protection. The car also boasts 1 tray of ice-cubes, underseat toilet, television receiver (by law, television is allowed only in the rear seats), and a compartment for telephone and directory.

The chief reason for better

health has been the rising nat'l income. But even so, we fall far short of meeting basic minimum needs for nat'l health: There are not enough doctors or dentists, not enough nurses or hospital beds.

Medical science has made remarkable advances. By 1950 it was conservatively estimated that medical by-products of atomic research had saved more lives than were lost in the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Several forms of cancer, hitherto incurable, yielded to research during the late 1950's, but no gen'l cancer "cure" has been developed.

Ways in which Americans amuse themselves were foreseeable yrs ago. For example, in Feb of '60 a bunch of jokesters from Calif dropped particles of dry ice on a rain cloud above Miami and precipitated a snow-storm. The culprits are in jail.

The inadequacies of public education and of teachers' salaries came strongly to public att'n during the 1950's. The result was increased federal aid. This help, which was made available without subjecting schools to federal control, has done more to change the educational picture than any other one development during the 20-yr period. We now spend \$7½ billion for education of all sorts, compared with less than 4 billion in '40.

Many individual churches continue to grow, or at least to maintain themselves, and continue to be an important influence in the lives of those they touch. But, on the whole, organized religion is losing support; the area of its influence is shrinking. Measured by the dollar yd-stick, organized religion seems on the way out. Yet its proponents still argue that it is the leaven in the lump. From a negative point of view this much is evident in 1960: the American people have not so far succumbed to either of the 2 great rival, secular religions of the century. Communism and nationalism both made their bid for support, and failed—else we should not be in the good yr of 1960 at all. Perhaps from many sources, of which the churches are one, the American people are finding an enduring and practical faith. — Abridged from *Kiplinger Magazine*, 11-'47.

